



**Inquiry into Waste Avoidance and Resource
Recovery Amendment (Plastics Reduction) Bill 2021
(NSW)**

AIIA Submission

3 May 2021



Reference List of Key AIIA Members who are Original Equipment Manufacturers (OEMs):

- Apple Pty Ltd
- Brother International (Aust) Pty Ltd
- Canon Australia Pty Ltd
- Cisco Australia Pty Ltd
- Dell Australia Pty Ltd
- Epson Australia Pty Ltd
- Google Australia Pty Ltd
- HP PPS AUSTRALIA PTY LTD TA HP INC
- IBM Australia Limited
- Lenovo (Australia & New Zealand) Pty Ltd
- MICROSOFT PTY LTD
- VMWare Australia Pty Ltd

About the AIIA

The Australian Information Industry Association (AIIA) is Australia's peak representative body and advocacy group for those in the digital ecosystem. We are a not-for-profit organisation to benefit members, and AIIA membership fees are tax deductible. Since 1978, the AIIA has pursued activities to stimulate and grow the digital ecosystem, to create a favourable business environment for our members and to contribute to Australia's economic prosperity.

We do this by delivering outstanding member value by:

- providing a strong voice of influence
- building a sense of community through events and education
- enabling a network for collaboration and inspiration; and
- developing compelling content and relevant and interesting information.

We represent the end-to-end digital ecosystem in Australia, including:

- multinational companies
- large Australian technology, telecommunications and digital and cloud infrastructure companies; and
- a large number of small and medium businesses, start-ups, universities and digital incubators.



About the Corporate Social Responsibility Policy Advisory Network (CSR PAN)

The Corporate Social Responsibility PAN is an active group of AIIA members focusing on policy and activities relating to sustainability.

Formerly the Environment Special Interest Group, the Corporate Social Responsibility PAN actively engages with State and Federal Governments and key stakeholder organisations to ensure that member interests are represented and reflected within broader policy and regulatory framework.

Within the AIIA, the Corporate Social Responsibility PAN functions as an expert advisory body to:

- respond to economic, social and environmental issues within the Australian ICT industry
- undertake advocacy activities on topics such as waste management and recycling, product stewardship, energy efficiency, modern slavery and environmental sustainability, including climate change
- engage with other industry bodies to promote harmonisation of policy, legislation and standards across the Australian ICT industry
- provide a forum for AIIA members to focus on environmental and sustainability issues, with opportunities for knowledge sharing within the wider membership

Submission

While many of our members have already removed EPS from their packaging, and others are on the path of removing it from some products, there are some large sensitive products (eg large printing equipment) for which there is not a currently available alternative. These are mostly B to B products and the companies have collection and recycling processes in place. For some of this equipment removing polystyrene by 2025 is not possible.

When implementing this bill, we recommend that the government consult with industry on appropriate time frames and about the type of equipment that should be in scope as well as review responsibilities; e.g. is it the OEM that is responsible or the importer? This needs to be clear and there should be consultation on any potential implications.

Finally, any NSW legislation should align with Australian Packaging Covenant Plans. APCO has been appointed by the Federal government to develop a roadmap to implement the National Plastics Plan. It has been recognised that the timeframe in the plan for banning polystyrene packaging by 2022 is not achievable for many products and the roadmap will outline the pathway for different types of products.

We would welcome a further opportunity to engage with government on this legislation. Should you have any questions about the content of this submission, please contact policy@aiia.com.au.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Simon Bush".

Simon Bush
GM, Policy and Advocacy
AIIA